

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully studied the outstanding Office Action. The present amendment is intended to place the application in condition for allowance and is believed to overcome all of the objections and rejections made by the Examiner. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

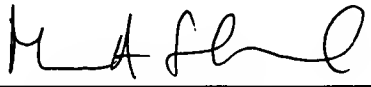
Applicant has canceled claims 5 - 8 and 21 - 24, and amended claims 1 and 17 to more properly claim the present invention. No new matter has been added. Claims 1 - 4, 9 - 20 and 25 - 32 are presented for examination.

On Page 8 of the Office Action, the Examiner has indicated that claims 8 and 24 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Instead of amending claim 8 so as to incorporate the limitations of base claim 1 and intervening claim 7, applicant has amended claim 1 so as to incorporate the limitations of claims 7 and 8. Similarly, instead of amending claim 24 so as to incorporate the limitations of base claim 16 and intervening claim 23, applicant has amended claim 16 so as to incorporate the limitations of claims 23 and 24.

For the foregoing reasons, applicant respectfully submits that the applicable objections and rejections have been overcome and that the claims are in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: June 6, 2005
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop
AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box
1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

Date: June 7, 2005

By: 

Cathi L.G. Thorsell